

Fatherhood Initiative Resource Guide

INTRODUCTION

The Fatherhood Initiative is intended to strengthen the role of fathers in families. Strong families are essential to the future of the nation; both mothers and fathers play an essential role in ensuring the well-being of their children. Changes in the lives of fathers must be supported by the communities in which they live, and communities must know what resources and support are available to help in this effort.

This Resource Guide was developed to assist the Head Start community in its effort to support the Fatherhood Initiative. It is not intended as a comprehensive guide.

Any questions or comments regarding this guide should be addressed to: Nanette Lofaro, Head Start Information and Publication Center, (202) 737-1030 ext. 222, nanettel@headstartinfo.org

BIBLIOBRIEFS

Coley, Rebekah Levine. "Children's Socialization Experiences and Functioning in Single-Mother Households: The Importance of Fathers and Other Men" in *Child Development* Vol. 69(1): 219-230.

Within the context of single-mother households, the author examines the effect of fathers' involvement and that of other men who interact with children.

Davenport, Dan. "Why We Need Fathers" in *Better Homes and Gardens* June 1996 Vol. 74 (6): 46(4).

This article focuses on the importance of fathers in their children's lives and takes a look at how community workers and organizations are working to bring fathers closer to their children and more active in their lives.

Engle, Patrice and Cynthia Breaux. "Fathers' Involvement with Children: Perspectives from Developing Countries" in *Social Policy Report* 1998 Vol. 12(1).

This article looks at fathers' involvement with their children from an international perspective, specifically in developing countries.

Fagan, Jay. "African American and Puerto Rican American Parenting Styles, Parental Involvement, and Head Start Children's Social Competence" in *Merrill- Palmer Quarterly* 2000 Vol 46(4): 592-612.

This article discusses co-parenting, fathers' care and that the presence and involvement of the father positively affects children's social competence.

Fagan, Jay and Aquiles Iglesias. "The Relation Between Fathers' and Children's Communication Skills and Children's Behavior Problems: A Study of Head Start Children" in *Early Education and Development* May 1, 2000 Vol. 11(3):307.

This recent article looks at Head Start children's behavior in relation to the communication skills of fathers and children in the study.

Herb, Steven and Sara Willoughby-Herb. "A Focus on Fathers: The Role of Males in Children's Literacy Development" in *Knowledge Quest* May/June 1998 Vol. 26 (4): 44-49.

The article examines the often overlooked issue of gender equity and the importance of fathers in the development of their children. Highlights include: the lack of male presence in many children's lives; benefits of involvement for children and fathers; timeliness for supporting fathering; and a partnership between libraries, literature, and fathering.

Horn, Wade F. "You've Come a Long Way, Daddy: After Being Pilloried and Left for Dead, The Fatherhood Ideal is Making a Comeback" in *Policy Report* July/August 1997: 24-30.

Examines the social problem of the collapse of fatherhood since the 1960s, and its recent comeback as a social ideal since news stories began to connect absent fathers and

such social ills as crime, educational failure, and welfare dependency. Covers MAD-DADS, Promise Keepers, The National Fatherhood Initiative, and other movements.

Levine, James A. "Involving Fathers in Head Start: A Framework for Public Policy and Program Development" in *Families in Society* January 1993 Vol 74: 4-21.

James Levine has written several books on fatherhood involvement. This article specifically addresses how to involve fathers in the development of Head Start programs.

Lue, Martha S. et al. "African-American Fathers with Their Preschool Children" in *Educational Forum* Summer 1998 Vol. 62(4): 300-05,

In a Baltimore Head Start center, a support group for fathers assists them with child-rearing skills and child-development knowledge. Key principles are recognizing the fathers' role, respecting their feelings and opinions, and valuing their cultural background.

Mackey, Wade C. "Father Presence: An Enhancement of a Child's Well-Being" in *The Journal of Men's Studies* Winter 1998 Vol. 6(2): 227(17).

Data collected from the 1970s to the late 1990s suggest that fathers are a significant presences in a child's development. Many U.S. scholars and writers have tended to assume fathers were unnecessary, claiming all a child needed was the assurance of at least one parent consistently demonstrating physical and emotional support. However, fathers enhance a child's well-being and fatherless children are hindered by that lack.

McBride, Brent A. and Thomas R. Rane. "Father/Male Involvement in Early Childhood Programs: Issues and Challenges" *Early Childhood Education Journal* Fall 1997 Vol. 25(1): 11-15.

This article examines the shifts in societal attitudes that suggest the time is right to encourage greater father/male involvement in early childhood programs. Based on experiences with the Men & Kids Project in Urbana, IL, the authors identify several challenges as educators explore ways to encourage greater father/male involvement and suggest possible solutions.

Roopnarine, J.L. and M. Ahmeduzzaman. "Puerto Rican Fathers' Involvement with their Preschool-Age Children" in *Hispanic Journal of Social Science* 1993 Vol. 15(1): 96-107.

This article presents information about how Puerto Rican fathers are involved with their young children.

Seibold, Douglas. "Reinventing Fatherhood" in *Our Children* Sept/Oct 1995 Vol. 1(1): 6-9.

Examines the changing structure of the American family and how that affects fathers, discusses good fathering in today's society, notes the views of the National Fatherhood Initiative, and discusses briefly various groups and their efforts to improve and unite fathers.

Whalley, Margy. "Getting Fathers Involved" in *Basic Skills* March-April 1998: 25-28.

An early education program for children under five worked on creating an environment in which fathers feel welcome and acknowledged as influences on child learning. Publicity and programs were designed to reflect gender difference in values and motivation.

BOOKS AND REPORTS

Biller, Henry B. *Fathers and Families*. Auburn House Publishing, 1993.

In *Fathers and Families*, Biller gives compelling evidence that fathers—so relatively under-researched—are quite important to complete child development. He focuses on the positive results of active paternal involvement that affect an overall family environment, which is both nurturing and satisfying. The presence of a caring father encourages a child's body image, self-esteem, moral standards, and other important qualities. The child-father relationship is shown to impact later life adjustment. Biller establishes, too, that variations in paternal involvement influence not only children, but also general family well-being, including marital relationships. This is a needed and timely work essential to understanding fathers' roles, potential, and importance in family life.

Canfield, Ken. *14 Keys to Successful Fathering* (Men of Integrity Series). Moody Press, July 1993.

From the founder of the National Center for Fathering, this book is an easy read about how to be a better dad.

Canfield, Ken. *Adventures In Fathering*. National Center for Fathering, 1998 series.

When a dad knows what his children are experiencing during particular stages of their lives, he gains confidence for the present task and knows how to prepare for the changes that lie ahead. Each of the six books in the series addresses a specific age of development in the child's life and what fathers can do to positively impact their child's growth and development. These include: 1. Forming a Lifelong Bond (for dads of infants); 2. Learning and Growing (for dads of preschoolers); 3. Exploring the World Together (for dads of school-age kids); 4. Thriving in Times of Change (for dads of adolescents); 5. Charting the Future (for dads of young adults); and 6. Leaving a Lasting Legacy (for grandfathers).

Canfield, Ken. *Learning and Growing: For Dads of Pre-Schoolers*. National Center for Fathering, 1998.

Learn key tasks that will lead you to a lifetime of healthy relationship with your child. This concise book addresses the specific challenges, key issues (and joys!) dads face with preschoolers. Canfield provides lots of practical helps, a self-scoring feedback survey, recommendations for further reading, and more.

Condrell, Kenneth. *Be a Great Divorced Dad*. St. Martin's Press, 1998.

A handbook that covers the practical and emotional issues facing divorced fathers

today. ***Be a Great Divorced Dad*** offers advice, guidance, and support for the ever-growing number of divorced fathers who seek to remain "real" dads, but fear that their situation after divorce will make that impossible.

Epstein, Lewis. ***Coaching for Fatherhood***. New Horizon Press, 1996,

Provides a step by step method to revitalize fatherhood, utilizing family histories and participants. It expands men's images of themselves and the families that formed them. Through it, men can learn to actively participate in their present families, develop a stronger sense of themselves, and become truly involved in their children's lives.

Glennon, Will. ***Fathering: Strengthening Connection With Your Children No Matter Where You Are***. Conari Press, 1985.

Written especially but not solely for divorced dads, this collection of powerful personal vignettes, based on the experiences of 100 fathers, shares important lessons, offers practical and creative ideas, and focuses on overcoming obstacles such as travel, divorce, and long work hours.

Hawkins, Alan J. and David C. Dollahite, editors. ***Generative Fathering: Beyond Deficit Perspectives***. (Current Issues in the Family Series #3). Sage Publications, 1996.

From the founders of ***FatherWork*** this book is an excellent scholarly work on how dads can be more actively involved in their children's lives.

Henry, Dewitt and James Alan McPherson, editors. ***Fathering Daughters: Reflections by Men***. Beacon Press, 1998.

This is a collection of essays that strikes deep into the heart of issues spanning both nurture and gender relations, and represent some of the best recent writing about manhood. Looking beyond a politicized definition of the father-daughter relationship, the editors have sought for this collection essays that express what they call "the perplexities of parenting daughters during these decades of questioning, polarization, and social change."

Horn, Wade. ***Father Facts***. 3rd Edition. National Fatherhood Initiative, 1998.

This booklet, compiled by National Fatherhood Initiative president Wade Horn, Ph.D., provides a thorough review of the current social science literature on fatherhood and family trends, and emphasizes how father absence is related to our nation's most pressing social ills such as crime and poverty. "The most disturbing social trend of our time is the dramatic increase in father absent families. In 1960, the total number of children living in single-parent families was less than 10 million. Today, the number is a staggering 23 million. For the first time in our history, the average child can expect to live a significant portion of his or her life in a home without a father."

Horn, Wade, Alice Feinstein and Jeffrey Rosenberg. ***Better Homes & Gardens New Father Book: What Every Man Needs to Know to Be a Good Dad***. Meredith Books, 1998.

From the founder of the National Fatherhood Initiative and the column Fatherly

Advice, this book offers practical tips for new fathers on everything from how to show love and provide discipline to how to help children with health and emotional problems.

Jacobs, Edward H. ***Fathering the ADHD Child: A Book for Fathers, Mothers, and Professionals.*** Jason Aronson, 1998.

Clinical psychologist Edward H. Jacobs recognizes the needs and perspectives particular to fathers and suggests how differences can be harnessed to strengthen and enrich the parenting team to benefit the ADHD child.

Ketterman, Grace H. ***Fathering: A Practical Guide for Dads*** (Framing Better Families, Bk. 3). Beacon Hill Press, 1997.

Dr. Grace Ketterman, pediatrician and psychiatrist, offers hands-on help on becoming a world-class father. This is a guide aimed at helping fathers make the most of their roles as a partner, protector, and playmate for their children.

Kilcarr, Patrick J. and Patricia O. Quinn. ***Voices From Fatherhood: Fathers, Sons and ADHD.*** Brunner/Mazel, 1997.

Voices From Fatherhood is the first book written specifically to help fathers in their journey through the complex world of fatherhood and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). It encourages personal growth while arming fathers with strategies for guiding their sons. Building on first person accounts, this book strikes the unique balance of offering factual information about ADHD and at the same time focusing on the personal impact on the father-son relationship.

Kita, Joe. ***Wisdom of Our Fathers: Timeless Life Lessons from Men Who Have Had Time to Learn Them.*** Rodale Press, 1999.

In this inspiring book of life lessons, journalist Joe Kita asked men in their autumn years what they wish they had known 30 years ago. In the process, he gained a harvest of wisdom from the older generation.

Klatte, William. ***Live-Away Dads: Staying a Part of Your Children's Lives When They Aren't a Part of Your Home.*** Viking Penguin, 1999.

Practical tips and advice on how to be involved with your children after divorce.

Klinger, Ron. ***Common Sense No-Frills, Plain-English Guide To Being A Successful Father.*** CSF Publishing, 1996.

Ordering information at: www.fathering.org. Published by the Center for Successful Fathering, this positive view of fathering is based on the lessons taught by ordinary, hard-working men who are also active father, with the basic principle that children need the balance of a mother and a father. Dr. Ron Klinger leads you through the mistaken beliefs, myths, misconceptions, and obstacles that disconnect men from their children. In a straightforward approach you learn the destructive effects of fatherless children and the unique and irreplaceable contributions of devoted dads.

Lamb, Michael E. *The Role of the Father in Child Development* 3rd ed. John Wiley & Sons, 1996.

In this third edition of Dr. Michael Lamb's *Role of the Father in Child Development*, a team of leading experts provides a thorough and up-to-date summary of the current scholarship on fathers and fatherhood, father-child relationships, and the influence of the father on the development of the child. This edition is distinguished by a broader view of the social context within which these relationships take place, including ethnicity, marital quality, and the operation of particular ideals of fatherhood. The book examines the father-child relationship at different stages of the child's development and constitutes a study in the evolution of this relationship and its effects (both direct and indirect) on child development. The book also explores non-conventional or particularly difficult relationships, including those experienced by divorced fathers, stepfathers, gay fathers, adolescent fathers, abusive fathers, and fathers of children with disabilities. For developmental, family, and clinical psychologists, child psychiatrists, researchers, social workers, and anyone involved in developmental psychology or child custody issues, this book offers rich detail, authoritative analysis, and profound insight into one of the most important relationships that any child will ever have.

Lansky, Vicki. *101 Ways to Be a Special Dad*. N T C/Contemporary Publishing Company, 1993.

The author of the popular *101 Ways to Make Your Child Feel Special* presents a heartwarming collection of tips and special ideas for dads. This delightfully illustrated book shows good dads how to enrich the parenting experience with thoughtful activities.

Levine, James. *Getting Men Involved: Strategies for Early Childhood Programs*. The Fatherhood Project, Scholastic Inc., 1993.

This is a hands-on guide for early childhood program workers who want to involve fathers and other significant males in children's lives. The first part of the book outlines four "stages" of reaching out to and working with men and includes over 100 practical strategies. The second part profiles 14 model programs throughout the United States. A resource section includes an annotated bibliography of books for children that feature men in nurturing roles. *Getting Men Involved* was supported by the A.L. Mailman Foundation and Smith Richardson Foundation.

Levine, James. *New Expectations: Community Strategies for Responsible Fatherhood*. Families International, 1995.

New Expectations: Community Strategies for Responsible Fatherhood offers a new way of thinking and acting to promote responsible fatherhood, including a jargon-free review of research, state-of-the-art review of community-based strategies, tips from leading practitioners, and a guide to more than 300 programs nationwide and to the 100 most useful publications.

Levine, James and Todd L. Pittinsky. ***Working Fathers: New Strategies for Balancing Work & Family***. Harcourt Brace & Company, 1998.

From the founder of the Fatherhood Project, this book offers strategies for fathers and businesses on how to deal with balancing work and family issues for men.

Lewis, Paul. ***The Five Key Habits of Smart Dads: A Powerful Strategy for Successful Fathering***. Zondervan Publishing House, 1996.

This book inspires confidence by offering a simple model of effective fathering. Charts, tips, quotes, and activity ideas make it an easy read. Each page has a "smart idea," something simple you can do for building a good relationship or for just having fun.

Lindsay, Jeanne Warren. ***Teen Dads: Rights, Responsibilities and Joys***. Morning Glory Press, 1993.

Introduces young men to various aspects of parenting — things dads need to know about, but which are usually considered more moms' domain (prenatal care, birth, breastfeeding, etc.), as well as special problems for young fathers, such as maintaining ties when the baby lives somewhere else with its mother. Nothing is covered in much depth, but the encouraging tone and informality of the text make the information easy to assimilate, and the inclusion of comments from teen dads will bring readers closer to the fatherhood fold.

Meyer, Donald J (ed.). ***Uncommon Fathers: Reflections On Raising A Child With A Disability***. Woodbine House, 1995.

Uncommon Fathers is a collection of essays by fathers who were asked to reflect and write about the life-altering experience of having a child with a disability. Nineteen fathers have taken an introspective and honest look at this extremely emotional subject, offering a seldom-heard perspective on raising children with special needs. Written for fathers by fathers, ***Uncommon Fathers*** should also be helpful to partners, family, friends and service providers who will appreciate this rare insight and perhaps learn from what these fathers have to say.

Frank Minirth, Paul Warren, and Brian Newman. ***The Father Book: An Instruction Manual***. NelsonWord Publishing Group, 1995.

With a little theory and a lot of practical guidance, this book explores what it means to be a father, how fathering has changed in the nineties, and how you as a father can meet many of your children's needs as no one else can. Offers valuable advice for taking your children through every stage of growth — infancy, preschool, grade school, early adolescence, teens — and addresses those important developmental issues that come up along the way.

Minnesota Fathering Alliance. ***Working With Fathers: Methods and Perspectives***. Nu Ink Unlimited, 1992.

A hands-on field guide for people who work with fathers, written by a team that has been working with fathers for years. Offers perspectives and techniques for helping men who want to be involved with their kids.

National Center on Fathers and Families. ***Strengthening the Role of Fathers in Families: Report on a Federal Conference.***

The Federal Conference described in this report is a collaborative effort between the National Center on Fathers and Families (NCOFF), the Philadelphia Children's Network, the National Performance Review, the Domestic Policy Council, and the Department of Health and Human Services. The conference attempted to address a range of questions concerning families and the role of fathers. It puts first the idea of the family as fundamental to the care, support, and nurturing of children and fathers as central to ensuring the well-being of their children and families. It seeks to better understand how fathers can and do contribute to the general quality of their children's lives, and seeks ways that fathers might support mothers more effectively in daily parenting and tasks of caring for children.

Parke, Ross D. ***Fatherhood.*** Harvard University Press, 1996.

Authored by one of the first generation of American fatherhood researchers, this is a state-of-the-art survey of research into fatherhood and child development, relating to the impact of absent fathers, styles of play, divorce, discipline, remarriage, custody, competence, confidence and class on the development of boys and girls.

Parke, Ross and Armin Brott. ***Throwaway Dads.*** Houghton Mifflin Company, 1998.

Are fathers really important? Of course they are. Yet we as a society have wittingly and unwittingly built nearly insurmountable barriers that restrict men's involvement with their children and families. Parke and Brott explode the myths of neglectful, uninterested, abusive, deadbeat, and lazy dads with real-life studies and statistics. They explain why the largely negative portrayal of fathers in books, television, and the movies is both inaccurate and harmful, training young boys and girls to see men as having little or no role in the family.

Pitts, Leonard, Jr. ***Becoming Dad: Black Men and the Journey to Fatherhood.*** Longstreet Press, 1999.

Syndicated *Miami Herald* columnist Leonard Pitts offers a thoroughly absorbing study of the African-American man's struggle to become a competent father in a society sorely lacking in role models. Detailing his personal efforts to bond with his children, the author also presents numerous case studies of black men facing similar difficulties. Pitts offers helpful, sensible advice and urges black men who have fathered children to locate them and establish a relationship with them and their mothers, then Pitts discuss how to create structure and stability while praising them, allowing the next generation to grow up confident. It is a readable, well-balanced, impassioned account of a dilemma that touches not just the black family, but all who care about children.

Sears, William. ***Becoming a Father: How to Nurture and Enjoy Your Family.*** La Leche League International, 1986.

Addresses the joys and problems of parenthood from the male perspective — everything from how to hold a tiny baby to sibling rivalry and organized sports. The author, a pediatrician and father of six, writes from personal experience, promising that becoming a father can bring rich rewards, among them love, a better marriage, and

maturity. "Fathering means carrying through with what you started," Dr. Sears writes. That means being sensitive to the mother's needs so she may be a better mother, giving children the time and attention they need from their father, and learning the joys of nurturing. In this well researched but easy-to-read volume, Dr. Sears documents the importance of the distinctive paternal role.

Willis, Andre C. *Faith of Our Fathers: African-American Men Reflect on Fatherhood*. Plume, 1997.

Black men are under scrutiny as never before, yet one aspect of their lives often overlooked or dismissed is their role as fathers. Andre C. Willis brings light on issues of black fatherhood in this collection of 12 original essays by African-American men. Authors include Cornel West, John Edgar Wideman, Anthony Cook, Robin D. G. Kelly, Delfeayo Marsalis, Playthell Benjamin and Michael G. Hanchard. The essays cover a range of topics from media stereotypes of black men as irresponsible fathers to a eulogy for a deeply religious man.

VIDEOS

Fatherhood USA. Families and Work Institute

This two-part documentary exploring fatherhood beyond the stereotypes of deadbeat dads and Mr. Morns originally aired on PBS in June 1998. The first program, *Dedicated, Not Deadbeat*, looks at fathers in Baltimore and Boston who are finding community support in trying to be good fathers. The second program, *Juggling Family and Work*, focuses on three men, in intact families, who confront the daily difficulty of being a dad and handling the pressures of a workplace that isn't always "father-friendly."

The documentary is hosted by former U.S. senator Bill Bradley. Actor Yaphet Kotto narrates the first program and actor John Shea narrates the second program. A separate training video and manual are available. Funding for the program was provided by The Ford Foundation and the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Accepting the Challenges of Fatherhood. Dr. Ron Klinger

This five part video series comes with a curriculum and book, if desired. It has been utilized by the Center for Successful Fathering to train over 1700 dads in seminars that explain how and why a dad must play an active role in raising his child. Available from the Center for Successful Fathering at 800-537-0853 or Internet:

<http://www.fathering.org/aware/educate.html>

INTERNET RESOURCES

Head Start Fatherhood Projects

Fatherhood Initiative

<http://fatherhood.hhs.gov/>

This federal site presents facts, statistics, and reports in an overview of the Department of Health and Human Services' involvement and activities with the Fatherhood Initiative.

For Fathers

http://www.nhsa.org/parents/parents_father_intro.htm

National Head Start Association's web source for the Fatherhood Initiative and Male and Father Involvement issues, including funding, partnerships, initiative models, and resources.

National Fatherhood Initiative

<http://www.fatherhood.org/>

This nonprofit organization offers an online catalog, a listing of online resources, tips and advice for fathers, and relevant links for further information.

Understanding the Role of Low-Income Fathers. Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.

<http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/3rdLevel/headstar.htm#UNDERSTANDING>

Discusses research projects underway with the Early Head Start research consortium to study the role of fathers in Head Start families.

Fatherhood/Fathering

Center for Successful Fathering

<http://www.fathering.org/>

This organization's web site contains public awareness resources, research findings, and educational materials which can be ordered online.

Father & FamilyLink

<http://fatherfamilylink.gse.upenn.edu/index.htm>

A site featuring several online research databases, fact sheets, and a contact list of related organizations. They also offer news updates and a calendar of upcoming events.

The Fatherhood Alliance

<http://www.fatherhoodalliance.org>

This organization's website serves as an online resource guide, providing links to more information for all types of fathers, including: gay fathers, special needs fathers, expectant fathers, grandfathers, teen fathers, and single fathers. The goal of the organization is to educate fathers, so as to better their fathering skills.

FatherNet (Children, Youth and Family Consortium, University of Minnesota)

<http://www.cvfc.umn.edu/Fathernet/index.html>

This site features news, articles and publications relevant to fatherhood. It also offers a bibliography and hosts an e-mail discussion group for people interested in fatherhood issues.

The Fatherhood Project Home Page

<http://www.fatherhoodproject.org/>

Part of the Families and Work Institute, this project produced the Fatherhood USA documentary that aired on PBS. Their site lists publications and useful related links on fatherhood.

Fathers Matter Initiative: Advancing Responsible Fatherhood Through Community Foundation Involvement

<http://www.ccfy.org/fathers/index.htm>

This website of the Coalition of Community Foundations for Youth provides initiative to encourage greater father involvement in families.

Fathers' World

<http://www.fathersworld.com/resources/index.html>

Maintained by the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, this website offers links to sites dealing with fathers' rights, fatherhood policy, fatherhood research, bulletin boards and legal issues.

Fatherwork - Brigham Young University

<http://fatherwork.byu.edu>

This site features stories, ideas, and suggested activities for and about fathering as generative work.

The Institute for Responsible Fatherhood & Family Revitalization

<http://www.responsiblefatherhood.org/>

A home-based, grassroots nonprofit organization with programs in many US cities dedicated to encouraging greater involvement for fathers with their families.

National Center on Fathers and Family

<http://www.ncoff.gse.upenn.edu/>

This organization is devoted to research designed to study and promote father involvement. Their site features online databases of policy research, events, and programs relating to fathers.

The National Latino Fatherhood and Family Institute

<http://www.nlffi.org/>

A collaborative effort of Bienvenidos Family Services, The National Compadres Network and Behavioral Assessment, Inc. Emphasizes male/father involvement, healthy family development, and media campaigns to promote positive Latino father

involvement. Serves as a clearinghouse to bilingual/bicultural materials, and fatherhood research.

National Parent Information Network: Full Text Resources

<http://npin.org/library/texts.html>

This page contains articles about fathers and daughters, father/male involvement, an index of father support, and other parenting resources.

Fatherhood/Family Formation

<http://www.welfareinfo.org/fatherho.htm>

This website is maintained by the Welfare Information Network and provides information about print resources, events and activities related to fatherhood and families. There are also links to federal and state programs and resources.

Reports and Articles on Fatherhood/Male Involvement

Child Support Enforcement Policy and Low-Income Families - Spring 2000 issue of *Focus*, a magazine of the Institute for Research on Poverty

<http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/irp/focus/focus.htm>

This issue contains studies on fathers, mothers and children, child support and custody policy, and international perspectives. Full text is available in Acrobat format.

Face to Face with Fathers: A Report on Low-Income Fathers and Their Experience with Child Support Enforcement

http://www.cffpp.org/publication/face_to_face.html

Highlights from a report by the Center on Fathers, Families and Public Policy in Chicago interviewing 71 fathers concerning the impact of public policy on low-income, non-custodial fathers.

Fathering: The Man and the Family - First Year Implementation Report

<http://fatherhood.hhs.gov/year2.htm>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services report on its implementation strategy for the initiative to strengthen the role of fathers in families.

Fathers - March-April 2000 issue of *Poverty Research Center News*

http://www.jcpr.org/newsletters/vol4_no2/index.html

This issue emphasizes the role fathers can play beyond that of breadwinner. A range of policy and program initiatives are reviewed. The difficulties that fathers, particularly low-income fathers, face in playing a meaningful role in their children's lives are chronicled. Full text and hyperlinks are available online.

How Men and Children Affect Each Other's Development - Kyle D. Pruett, M.D. Yale Child Study Center New Haven, Connecticut

<http://www.zerotothree.org/fathers.html>

This article discusses findings concerning the importance of male involvement in the lives of children.

How to Be a Dad: Responding to Alarming Trends, Agencies are Teaching Young Men How to Be the Fathers That Many of Them Never Had – Jennifer Sondag

<http://www.regionvqnet.org/qnet/factsnow/5014.cfm>

This article presents statistics and profiles of programs promoting father involvement in families.

Male Involvement in Children's Lives

<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/region7/malegate.htm>

Success stories and strategies for male involvement from Region VII ACF programs.

Map and Track: State Initiatives to Encourage Responsible Fatherhood

<http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/main5.html>

From the National Center for Children in Poverty site, this page includes the June 1997 and 1999 editions of this national report on state efforts to promote responsible fatherhood. Covers state profiles, programs, and national resources.

Research: Fathers

<http://www.beachcenter.org>

Highlights from Beach Center on Families and Disability research on fathers conducted between 1993-1998.

Restoring Fathers to Families and Communities: Six Steps for Policymakers

http://www.span-online.org/restoring_fathers.html

This policy guide by Kathleen Sylvester and Kathy Reich, of the Social Policy Action Network. Gives state and local policymakers concrete ideas for encouraging fathers to support their children, financially and emotionally. The report is available in hard copy from SPAN or the Annie E. Casey Foundation 410-547-6600

Resources for Fathers

BabyCenter: The Dad Zone

<http://www.babycenter.com/dads/>

This site offers extensive consumer literature for new or expectant fathers.

Bay Area Male Involvement Network

<http://www.bamin.org/>

Maintained by several Bay area child services agencies, this website offers information about male involvement programs in the Bay area, articles, links to websites, electronic articles, and information about upcoming male involvement events in the Bay area.

Bootcamp for New Dads

<http://www.newdads.com/>

Extensive training, tips and advice for new or expectant dads presented by new and "veteran" fathers.

The Dad Show

<http://www.dadshow.com/>

A weekly online radio talk show for dads produced by a Head Start program in Austin, Texas.

Dads and Daughters

<http://www.dadsanddaughters.org/>

A non-profit, membership organization for fathers with daughters.

Father to Father

<http://www.cyfc.umn.edu/fathernet/ftf.html>

This site offers links to electronic documents related to fathering, and a bibliography of fathering print resources.

Fatherhood Project

<http://www.fatherhoodproject.org/>

Maintained by the Families and Work Institute, the Fatherhood Project home page offers information about Families and Work Institute publications and links to fatherhood organizations.

Fathers: Connect for Kids Reference Room Topics

http://connectforkids.org/benton_topics_1544/benton_topics.htm

The Connect for Kids (formerly Kids Campaign) web site offers a series of online articles on many issues relevant to fathers and fatherhood including ones on community building and involvement in schools. It also includes lists of fatherhood groups and state resources for fathers.

How to Succeed as a Stepfather

<http://www.globe.com/globe/columns/meltz/061898.htm>

A nuts-and-bolts article from Barbara Meltz's column in the *Boston Globe*. It is the story of a psychologist who became a stepfather. It explains why it takes a long time for children to accept a stepfather. Discipline, promoting closeness, dealing with rejection are topics covered. It ends with practical suggestions for parents and pitfalls to avoid.

National Center for Fathering

<http://www.fathers.com/>

This site offers practical tips, an online bookstore and services for connecting fathers with other fathers as well as recent research findings on fatherhood.

National Fathers Network: Support for Fathers and Families of Children with Special Needs

<http://www.fathersnetwork.org/>

A non-profit organization devoted to supporting and offering resources for fathers of children with special needs, their families, and their service providers. Their site archives a newsletter for fathers, contains articles by dads, and lists additional resources.

Parenting & Fatherhood

<http://2ndsite.net/afm/index.html>

This is a manual on solo parenting, for recently-divorced parents with young children, specifically parents who may have become discouraged in their role, and disappointed in family life.

The Practitioner's Page

<http://www.npnff.org>

This website is the home page for the National Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families. It offers a variety of professional resources for individuals who work to strengthen the role of fathers in their families.

At-Home Fathers

At Home Dads Network

<http://www.angelfire.com/zine2/athomedad/athomedad.net>

The network is a loose-knit grassroots organization for primary care dads who want to start up or join any activity to help connect at-home dads.

Dad Stays Home

<http://www.dadstayshome.com>

A new father thought it would be great to create a site where other "stay at home" dads could exchange ideas or stories and research parenting topics.

Full-Time Dads Magazine

<http://www.fathering.com/ftd/>

News, outreach and encouragement to promote fathers as active caregivers for their children.

Slowlane.com: The Online Resource for Stay At Home Dads

<http://www.slowlane.com/>

This site offers articles, media clips, suggested books, and other resources for fathers

who stay at home. It also highlights services to connect fathers with other stay at home dads in their local communities.

Men's Issues

MenWeb - Men's Issues: Men's Voices Magazine

<http://www.vix.com/menmag/>

Provides information and support for men. Encourages men to creatively choose their roles in society, and to select healthy models of personal growth.

World Wide Web Virtual Library: Fatherhood Issues Page

<http://www.vix.com/men/nofather/nodad.html#dad>

Includes information on fatherhood and fatherlessness, including articles, statistics, testimony, and books. Provides a list of articles on the effect of welfare on fatherhood. This site polls readers about what it is like to balance fatherhood and work.

Child Custody and Support Issues

The Fathers' Rights & Equality Exchange

<http://dadsrights.org/index.html>

Both fathers and mothers should share equally in the parenting and support of children this non-profit organization believes. It supports this end through a hotline, attorney referrals, and by distributing document resources. It is actively working to change the family legislation to be more equitable.

Single & Custodial Father's Network, Inc.

<http://www.scfn.org/>

Single & Custodial Father's Network is an international, member-supported, non profit organization. The purpose is to help fathers meet the challenge of being parents, through informational and supportive services to fathers and their families.